

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. For collecting a specimen of a substance, a sampler,
2 comprising:

3 a sampler body;

4 a platen having first and second opposing sides, the first
5 side being removably coupleable to an end of the sampler body; and

6 a sampling medium coupleable to the second side and configured
7 to retain a specimen of a substance thereon.

2. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
plunger slidably coupled to the sampler body and configured to
removably couple to the platen.

3. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 wherein the sampling
medium comprises a foil of silver, carbon, indium, copper, or gold.

4. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
platen cap configured to removably couple to the sampler body
proximate the platen.

5. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
rotatable platen coupled to the sampler body and configured to
selectably expose the sampling medium.

6. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
specimen cap coupled to the platen.

7. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
spring interposed the platen and the sampler body, the spring
configured to retract the platen within the sampler body.

8. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
security cap removably coupleable to the sampler body distal the
platen.

9. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 wherein the platen is
configured to couple to an analytical tool.

10. The sampler as recited in Claim 9 wherein the analytical
tool is selected from the group consisting of:
a scanning electron microscope;
an Auger electron microscope;
a focused ion beam tool; and
an X-ray reflection diffractometer.

11. A method of manufacturing a sampler for collecting a specimen of a substance on a surface, comprising:

coupling a sampler body to a platen having first and second opposing sides at the first side; and

coupling a sampling medium to the second side, the sampling medium configured to retain a specimen of a substance thereon.

12. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising slidably coupling a plunger to the sampler body, the plunger configured to removably couple to the platen.

13. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein coupling a sampling medium includes coupling a sampling medium comprising a foil of silver, carbon, indium, copper, or gold.

14. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising coupling a platen cap to the sampler body proximate the platen, the platen cap configured to removably cover the platen.

15. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising coupling a rotatable platen to the sampler body, the rotatable platen configured to selectably expose the sampling medium.

16. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising

2 coupling a specimen cap to the platen.

17. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising
2 interposing a spring between the platen and the sampler body, the
3 spring configured to retract the platen within the sampler body.

18. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising
2 coupling a security cap to the sampler body distal the platen.

19. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein coupling a
2 platen includes coupling a platen configured to couple to an
3 analytical tool.

20. The method as recited in Claim 19 wherein coupling a
2 platen includes coupling a platen configured to couple to an
3 analytical tool selected from the group consisting of:

- 4 a scanning electron microscope;
- 5 an Auger electron microscope;
- 6 a focused ion beam tool; and
- 7 an X-ray reflection diffractometer.